maximum in this month averages 88.2°, between noon and 2 p. m.

8. The preceding table contains the monthly and annual mean temperatures in Havana for the years 1887 to 1895, inclusive:

III.—MOISTURE OF THE AIR.

9. The vapor tension at the Vedado Park, Havana, during the month of January, as computed from nine years' observations, is at a minimum, averaging 12.3 millimeters, about 6 a. m. The mean maximum is 13.7 millimeters, and generally occurs at 2:30 p. m.

10. In July the minimum tension averages 19.0 millimeters, about 4:30 a. m. The mean maximum is 21.1 millimeters, and occurs shortly before 4 p. m.

11. The maximum relative humidity at the Vedado Park, Havana, during the month of January, as computed from nine years' observations, averages 86 per cent about 6 a. m. The humidity is at a minimum at 2 p. m., averaging then 64 per cent.

12. In July the maximum generally occurs about 4 a. m., and averages 90 per cent. The minimum humidity in this month takes place between noon and 1 p. m., and is on an average 66 per cent.

IV.—PRECIPITATION.

Monthly and annual mean precipitation, and greatest precipitation, Vedado Park, Havana, nine years' observations, 1887 to 1895.

Month.	Mean.	Max.	Year.	Month.	Mean.	Max.	Year.
	Inches.	*Inches.*			*Inches.*	*Inches.*	
January	2.17	6.25	1889	August	5.65	9.30	1889
February	1.98	5.00	1889	September	7.29	13.01	1895
March	2.36	4.80	1891	October	9.50	13.60	1891
April	1.26	2.85	1887	November	4.50	7.50	1890
May	5.39	17.01	1890	December	2.15	5.65	1893
June	8.14	18.45	1892				
July	5 05	7.25	1890	Total	53.39		

V.—MEAN VELOCITY OF THE WIND.

The daily mean velocity of the wind, as computed from nine years' observations, shows intervals of calm attending the daily changes of direction. The secondary maximum occurs between 2 and 4 a. m., and on the annual average is 3.5 miles per hour.

The principal maximum velocity of the wind occurs between noon and 4 p. m., and averages yearly 11.5 miles per hour.

The daily absolute maximum velocity is on the annual average 17.5 miles per hour. The following table shows the mean velocity of the wind for each month of the year, as computed from hourly observations for nine years.

Month.	Miles per hour.	Month.	Miles per hour.
January	9.0	August	6.8
February	9.6	September	7.1
March	9.7	October	8.5
April	9.2	November	10.0
May	8.0	December	9.5
June	7.4		
July	7.0	Year	8.4

PHENOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE POTOMA

By Prof. F. W. VERY.

At the special Weather Bureau station, temporarily established on Cobbs Island (post office address Rock Point, Charles County, Md.), Prof. F. W. Very reports the following notes relative to animal and vegetable life, under date of May 16:

The extremes of temperature have been rather trying. I have been interested in watching the spring changes and send you a few notes.

On my arrival (April 22) the following birds were already here: Red-winged blackbird, robin, bluebird, golden-winged woodpecker, brown thrush, long sparrow, swamp sparrow, chipping sparrow, boat-tailed grakle, meadow lark, warblers of several sorts, crows, sea gulls, killdee, plovers, turkey buzzards, the fish hawk, and swallows. Pear trees just coming into bloom. Cherry trees in full bloom. Shad bush in bloom.

April 25.—I walked through woods of pitch pine, long-leaved pine, and prickly holly, finding sassafras in bloom on the border and houstonia in the openings. Yellow warblers singing.

April 29.—Orchard oriole (new comer), green heron, king birds, far off heard song thrush, and rose-breasted grosbeak. Blackhaw (viburnum prunifolium) in flower all along the shore. Flowering cornel just beginning to bloom (columbine).

May 1.—Lilac in bloom.

May 2.—Pine trees in bloom and the waters of Neals Sound covered with pollen, thrown into wavy yellow veins (as in marbled paper) by the incoming tide. Willow oak in bloom.

May 6.—Garden white iris and wild blackberry in bloom.

May 8.—Oven bird and vireos singing. Hypoxis, potentilla, etc., in bloom.

May 10.—Whippoorwill singing.

May 13.—Wood pewee singing, and wild cherry in bloom.

In New England I have always regarded the coming of the wood pewee as a sure sign of settled summer weather.

May 14.—Locust trees in bloom. Hot and dry.

NOTES BY THE EDITOR.

DEATH OF MR. CYRUS ELLENBERGER.

In a letter dated San Francisco, Cal., April 6, 1900, Mr. Alexander G. McAdie says:

It is my sad duty to announce the death, on Thursday, April 5, of Mr. Cyrus Ellenberger, for many years a valued observer in the Weather Bureau. He had been on duty at this station since May, 1892, serving chiefly as chief clerk, and was regarded by all his associates as a painstaking, reliable, and faithful official. He gave the best years of his life to the work of the Weather Bureau, and was always willing to expend his energy in furthering the work of this office. For some time past he had suffered from a slow and painful disease, but he nevertheless very bravely stuck to his desk and performed the duties required of him.

STORM WAVES NOT TIDAL WAVES.

The Oregonian of Portland, Oreg., reports that a "tidal wave" did much damage at Ladysmith, Vancouver Island, April 6. On this same date severe storms and squalls prevailed on the coasts of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. The southwest winds accompanying such storms raise heavy seas and pile up the water in the rivers and harbors of this coast. All the reports that have been received from Victoria relative to the so-called tidal wave seem to show that it was due entirely to the wind, and might properly be called a "storm wave," but not in any sense a tidal wave. The latter class of waves have distinct characteristics and should not be confounded with the storm waves due to wind, and, occasionally, to barometric pressure.

AN ICE STORM.

During the month of March, of the current year, the vegetation in the New York Botanical Garden, on the Bronx